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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Yoshinao Katano §  
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Conf. No.: To Be Assigned § Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
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Appln. No.: To Be Assigned § Examiner: To Be Assigned  
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Filing Date: Herewith § Attorney Docket No.: 8391-50US(KP032419)  
§  
Title: FLUID TREATING METHOD AND APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed references were cited in the International Search Report dated May 13, 2003 from the Japanese Patent Office concerning counterpart International Application No. PCT/JP03/00741. JP 10-52608 is cited and discussed at page 2 of the specification.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the

Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshinao Katano

March 3, 2004  
(Date)

  
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WWS:vj  
Enclosures

Form PTO/SB/08A				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Application Number</b>	To Be Assigned
				<b>Filing Date</b>	Herewith
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Yoshinao Katano
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	To Be Assigned
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	To Be Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	8391-50US(KP032419)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	JP	59-132911	A	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.	07-1984
	JP	6-154515	A	Kuta Kanto Miura Kabushiki Kaisha	06-1994
	JP	62-14911	A	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.	01-1987
	JP	63-126509	A	Mitsubishi Kakoki Kaisha, Ltd.	05-1988
	JP	10-52608	A		02-1998

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or country where published.	T,  International Search Report dated May 13, 2003 (1 page).

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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T<sub>1</sub> - Place a check mark if complete document is in English; otherwise, place a letter "A" if only an English abstract is attached.